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At a Crossroads: The Educational Leadership Professoriate in the 21st Century

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Faculty Pub Night – Spring 2013

Date: March 19, 2013

Speaker: Martha McCarthy



About the Author

Martha McCarthy joins the LMU School of Education as a Presidential Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership. McCarthy's research is in primarily educational law and policy, and the evolution and reform of leadership preparation programs. She has conducted research on most aspects of educational law, focusing recently on First Amendment issues pertaining to church/state relations and expression rights of students and school employees. She currently is working on the seventh edition of "Public School Law: Teachers' and Students' Rights" (with Nelda Cambron-McCabe and Suzanne Eckes). Her recent research on leadership preparation programs has entailed a national study (with Don Hackmann), "At a Crossroads: The Educational Leadership Professoriate in the 21st Century," which examines educational leadership units and the characteristics, activities and attitudes of educational leadership faculty members.

After being a teacher and school administrator, she joined the faculty at Indiana University, where she most recently served as a Chancellor's Professor and chair of the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in the School of Education. McCarthy has served as president of the Education Law Association and the University Council for Educational Administration and as vice president for Division A (Administration) of the American Educational Research Association. She has received the Living Legend Award from the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration and the Roald Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award from the University Council for Educational Administration, among numerous awards.

McCarthy earned her B.A. in elementary education and her M.A. in instructional management and planning from the University of Kentucky. She earned her Ed.S. and Ph.D. in educational leadership from

the University of Florida.

About the Author's Work

A volume in UCEA Leadership Series Series Editor: Michelle D. Young, UCEA Executive Director for the UCEA Series The official book series of the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) This volume presents the results of a comprehensive study of educational leadership faculty and the departments and programs in which they work. It reports the characteristics, activities, and attitudes of educational leadership faculty members involved in university-based educational leadership preparation programs in 2008 and provides longitudinal comparisons with data from studies conducted since 1972. The findings are compared by type of institution and with respondents grouped by sex, race, administrative experience, type of appointment (tenure-line or clinical), length of time in the professoriate, and affiliation with the University Council for Educational Administration and the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration. Findings indicate that while the number of university-based leadership preparation programs continues to grow, the average faculty size has declined. Among major trends are an increase in female faculty members from 2% of the faculty in 1972 to 45% in 2008 and the reduction in gender differences in activities and attitudes since the mid-1980s. Also, over the past few decades, there has been a significant increase in faculty occupying non-tenure-line positions, having administrative experience, and focusing on leadership in general in contrast to a content specialization. These and other developments have significant implications for leadership preparation programs and for knowledge production in our field.